Obstruent-clusters occur frequently in the Bc language and are to be found in various surroundings:

a) word-initially: twiixn "cover, lid", psayxt "pitch of fir tree", x'ułx̱s "end of story", əx̱sal "heavy rain";

b) word-medially: ʔincaak "limb moss", mntx̱a "dip up water", ʔ'asta "mountain goat wool", ʔaax̱sa "nose";

c) word-finally: ʔalatk "miss, make mistake", wanuks "who are you?, psayxt "pitch of fir tree", ti suls "his house";

d) on word boundaries: ti snanił̓k̓̓x̱a̱ n̓l̓x̱wax̱n̓s "you pl. are followed by the women", ti suł̓tx̱a̱n̓l̓x̱wax̱n̓s "this house", ʔaw̓ltinił̓x̱a̱ n̓l̓x̱wax̱n̓s "we're followed by the women".

More complex obstruent-clusters:

a) sc(ł̓x̱ə̓gaa̓ tk̓stə "stump of tree";

b) ʔux̱n̓l̓x̱wax̱n̓sə̓ "they called each other";

c) s̓l̓x̱x̱k̓x̱wə̓x̱ "bushtail rat";

d') ʔalax̱aan̓x̱ktə̓c sk̓x̱is ... "he told them that ..."

A group of such clusters have lexical status and can easily be isolated from their syntactical environment: pl̓t "thick", Ɂ̱xt "stone", skx "black".

Semantically speaking, these vowelless words are not restricted to a narrow class of words; they may represent verbs (k̓x̱ "see, look at"), adjectives (skx "bad"), nouns (stq̱ "mud") and one exclamation (sič) (ct "hey!"").

Phonological shape of vowelless words.
a) plosive-plosive: (1) tk "sticky", (2) tc "to gather up", (3) tj "go to the shore", (4) tq "take (singe) fur off", (5) tc "to chew", (6) tk "bleed", (7) tq "to dry berries", (8) cq "to wipe", (9) ct "hey!", (10) ck "heavy", (11) cq "bore a hole", (12) cq "to tear", (13) ca "start on sth.", (14) cp "to stick (e.g. in the throat)", (15) rp "cut with scissors", (16) kl "pick up little things", (17) kp "to share", (18) kc "cut with axe", (19) k "plant sth., put sth. down", (20) q "straight", (21) q "to stumble", (22) q "crooked", (23) q "empty spot".

b) plosive-fricative: (24) ts "to bend", (25) tx "crabapple", (26) tl "strong", (27) tx "cut with knife", (28) tx "adze sth.", (29) ts "be salty", (30) tx "to swell", (31) cl "(sth.) bust(ing)", (32) ox "dark", (33) cs "loud", (34) cl "to cover", (35) ox "white", (36) i "dry", (37) ks "pull sth.", (38) kl "fall", (39) kx "to see", (40) k "rough", (41) k "split sth.", (42) k "engage", (43) k "nour and mix sth.", (44) q "to hurt again and again (oneself)", (45) q "tight", (46) qx "to bite", (47) q "laugh", (48) qx "move sth.".

c) fricative-plosive: (49) sp "to chop sth. in sth.", (50) sk "to scratch off", (51) sk "undo sth.", (52) sq "to wound sth.", (53) sq "jump", (54) lp "to mix", (55) lt "to dry up", (56) lc "press down", (57) lp "big", (58) lp "wet", (59) lp "to spill", (60) lp "it caves in", (61) x "untie a rope", (62) x "to go through a hole", (63) xo "spilled up, broken up", (64) xo "soaked wet".

d) fricative-fricative: (65) sx "head", (66) sx "burn sth.", (67) sx "brush sth.", (68) xs "fat", (69) sx "oil sth.", (70) xo "go ahead with sth.

A few vowelless words alternate with full-vowel forms: qa "(a) laugh" - *iqa "laugh", px "crabapple" - *ixpixp "crabapple tree", ct "hey!"
Vowelless words, consisting of more than two obstruents:

plosive-plosive-plosive: (71) c(ʻ)kt "to arrive";
plosive-plosive-fricative: (72) cʎk "little girl";
plosive-fricative-plosive: (73) pʎt "thick", (74) t̂ xt "stone", (75) q̂ st "leak as a wound";
plosive-fricative-fricative: (76) cʎk "true", (77) kʎx "be awake";
fricative-plosive-fricative: (78) skx "black";
fricative-fricative-plosive: (79) sx̂ ək "be short of sth.", (80) sx̂ p "tie a knot", (81) l̂ x̂ t "go through a hole";
plosive-plosive-fricative-plosive: (82) q̂ st "to taste";
plosive-fricative-fricative-plosive: (83) p̂ x̂ ək "bunchberry".

Complex vowelless words:

a) units containing nominalizer s-: (84) štš "salt" (ts "be salty"),
(85) scọl "frost" (cọl "bust"), (86) sĉ ək "dripping" (ĉ ək-m "to drip"), (87) l̂ k̂ "wart" (l̂ k̂ "pick up little things"), (88) ŝ ək "spark" (ŝ əkusmal "hail",
mul̂ x̂ ək "burst", 7a̲l̂ x̂ ək "my teeth chatter"); Squamish s-ṭiq̂-m "large
spark", Shuswap s-ṭiq̂-ṭ-ṭq̂-t "spark"), (89) skc "sickness" (kc "cut with
axe", cf. Dutch "door ziekte geveld" - "felled by (a) disease"), (90) sko̲l̂p.
"seed" (k̂ əl̂ "to plant", -əp "plant, tree"), (91) ŝ l̂ k̂ o "clothes" (q̂ k̂ ota id.),
(92) ŝ l̂ s "fat" (t̂ š "fat, stout")

Doubtful cases: (93) sps "cold east wind", (94) spq̂ "blizzard snow" (pupq̂
"loose"); Squamish Ṱp̂ k̂ o "form nuffs/clouds of dust/smoke/spray", p̂ aq̂ an "to
scatter"), (95) ŝ p̂ t"freckle" (t̂ p̂ -i̲ t̂ q̂ "lid, cover", tp-ɣ-aa̲x "cross one's
legs", tp-uc-ɻ̂ s-a "put a stick through the sliced salmon"), (96) ŝ m̂ c "cot-
tonwood buds", (97) ŝ q̂ "mud" (Squamish tiq̂ "muddy"), (98) ŝ k̂ "little sticks
from firbark" (cf. ĉ k̂ -l̂ p "ribbs"), (99) sc(ʻ)q "animal fat"
(100) skêt "charcoal" (skx "black"), (101) skp "saliva", (102) sqc "sand",
(103) sqsklpi "saskatoon brush" (cf. qs "tight"), (104) sqc "fishbone",
(105) sqc "sprout of berry".

b) units containing the suffix -λp "tree, plant": (106) skπλp "seed"
(cf. (90)), (107) sqskπp "saskatoon brush" (cf. (103)), (108) qλp "balsam
fir" (q-λp or qλ-λp). Maybe also: skπp "ribs" (cf. (96)).

c) units containing affixes or clitics: -λ "past, dead", -c "I, my",
-c "now", -k° "past (narrative), -k° "iterative past". -λ, -c, -k°,
and -k° may be attached to both transitive and intransitive verbal stems,
whereas -c may be attached to any nominal stem but also to intransitive
verbal stems.
The imperative endings -κ (singular subject) and αλκ (plural subject) can
be attached to any intransitive verbal stem.
The imperative endings -tx (singular subject, singular object), -tx (singular
subject, plural object), -tx (plural subject, singular object), and
-κtx (plural subject, plural object) can be added to any transitive verbal
stem.

As a result, longer vowelless words are formed: 宠 "taste these things!",
ακπκκ "I went through a hole", ɛκπκκ "then he arrived".

-λ-

\" anytime

\" anytime